

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 00977 130451 Z

10

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-02 H-02 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-08

TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-12 PRS-01 OMB-01 IO-12 RSR-01

/164 W

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R 130312 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6548

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L WELLINGTON 0977

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN UN PFOR NZ

SUBJ: PROBLEMS OF REDUCING NZ TRADE BARRIERS

REF: WELLINGTON' S A-72

1. SUMMARY: PM INDICATED WILLINGNESS MOVE GNZ TOWARD
FREER TRADE BUT INDICATED PACE WILL BE SLOW. END SUMMARY.

2. I SAW PM KIRK BRIEFLY APRIL 13. I GAVE HIM LETTER
COMPLIMENTING HIS GOVT ON ITS CONCRETE STEPS TO
STRENGTHEN UN AND INCREASE ITS OWN AID (REF AIRGRAM) AND
SUGGESTING THIRD AREA FOR REDUCING WORLD TENSIONS- THE
DECREASE OF WORLD TRADE BARRIERS. I ENCLOSED QUOTATION
OF PARA 7 OF PRESIDENT' S MESSAGE ON TRADE REFORM BILL
(BEGINNING " THE WORLD IS EMBARKED TODAY..."). I ALSO
NOTED THAT ONE OF PRESIDENT' S MAJOR OBJECTIVES WAS
EXPANSION OF AGRICULTURAL TRADE. LETTER SUGGESTED
THAT GNZ MIGHT CONSIDER SPEEDING UP REVIEW OF ITS
IMPORT LICENSING AND CONCLUDED, " AS BRITISH PREFERENCES
END AND ANOTHER ROUND OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE NEGOTIA-
TIONS APPROACHES, IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE FOR NEW
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PAGE 02 WELLIN 00977 130451 Z

ZEALAND TO HASTEN THIS REVIEW OF ITS OWN SITUATION."
(TEXT BY POUCH).

3. PM COMMENTED:

A. HE FELT CONTINUING FLOAT WAS HARMFUL;
B. GNZ FACED TWO PROBLEMS IN EVALUATING ITS
OWN SITUATION:

(1) GOA WAS BEING SLOW IN REACHING AGREEMENT
ON STRENGTHENING NAFTA -- PARTICULARLY ON AUTOS WHICH
WAS TOUCHY SUBJECT;

(2) GNZ' S REVIEW OF ITS OWN IMPORT LICENSING
WAS SLOW DUE TO STAFF SHORTAGE AND PROCRASTINATION
VARIOUS NZ MANUFACTURERS. HE SAID ONE COMPANY EMPLOY-
ING EIGHT HELD UP HEARINGS ON A CERTAIN INDUSTRY FOR
TWO WEEKS.

COMMENTS:

A. I DECIDED TO TAKE THIS GENERAL APPROACH ON
TRADE WITH PM SINCE TIME SHORT AND HE IS MORE
INTERESTED IN GENERAL POLICY THAN DETAILS OF TRADE.

B. WILL FOLLOW UP MORE SPECIFICALLY WITH MINISTERS
FREER AND ROWLING.

C. AMBASSADOR LLOYD WHITE TOLD ME AND VANDIVIER
APRIL 12 HE HAD SUBMITTED MEMO TO PM DURING HIS VISIT
HERE URGING INCREASED NZ TRADE WITH US. WE DISCUSSED
SOME SPECIFIC US PRODUCTS-- TURKEY, SOYBEANS, AND
FRUIT WHICH HE AGREED WOULD BE USEFUL TO CONTINUE
ENCOURAGING HERE. I SHALL DO SO WITH ROWLING AND
FREER.

D. WHITE SAID MERVYN NORRISH, WHO WILL SOON
BECOME CORNER' S DEPUTY, WILL BE VERY HELPFUL IN TRADE
AFFAIRS. WE HAVE HEARD THIS FROM SEVERAL SOURCES.
WOOD

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973WELLIN00977
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: WELLINGTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730443/aaaaipfv.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 WELLINGTON' S A-72
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22-Oct-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <11-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980120
Subject: PROBLEMS OF REDUCING NZ TRADE BARRIERS
TAGS: EFIN, PFOR, NZ, UN
To: EB
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO CANBERRA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005